

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the Specification as follows:

On page 16, please replace the paragraph beginning from line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

--FIG. 11 shows the nucleotide sequence of the accessible region located around 1,000 base pairs upstream of the transcriptional startsite of the human VEGF gene. Target sites for various transcription factors are indicated. Sequences of the murine (SEQ ID NO. 23) and human VEGFA (SEQ ID NO. 24) genes in this region are shown.--